

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the fifth paragraph on page 5 of the application with the following:

Device 200 includes a rigid airway tube 210, a silicone mask portion 230, a rigid handle 280, and an inflation line 290. The handle 280 is attached to airway tube 210 near a proximal end 212 of the tube. Mask portion 230 is attached to airway tube 210 at a distal end 214 of the tube. Mask portion 230 includes a dome shaped silicone backplate 232 and an inflatable cuff 234. Mask portion 230 also includes an epiglottis elevator bar 250. One end 252 of bar 250 is attached to the backplate 232. The other end 254 of the bar 250 is “free floating”, or not attached to any other portion of the device. As shown in Figure 2B, the airway tube 210 defines a curved region that extends from a proximal ray 216 to a distal ray 218, the rays 216, 218 meeting at a center of curvature C. As shown in Figures 2B and ~~2D~~^{2C}, the backplate 232 defines a ramp 240. As with prior art device 100, the angle theta (θ) defined by rays 216, 218 is about one hundred twenty degrees, and the ramp 240 adds about seventeen degrees to this curve. Different sized mask portions may be attached to the airway tube to adapt the device for larger or smaller patients, and the ramps in the other mask portions can curve by slightly more or less than seventeen degrees.

Please replace the third full paragraph on page 7 of the application with the following:

In Figure 2C, the apex of the airway tube 210 is indicated at 340. Apex 340 is the point of the tube that will be contacted by the patient's upper teeth when the device is inserted in a patient. As shown in Figure 2C, the notch 219 is offset from the apex 340 in the region of the airway tube near location 330 to insure that the patient's teeth do not contact and damage the bundle 310 of optical fibers. Although the notch ~~219~~²¹⁸ is offset from the apex near point 330, as the notch 219 progresses down the tube towards the mask portion, the notch 219 assumes a more central location such that at the distal end, the lens 314 is centrally aligned with the aperture 256 in the epiglottis elevator bar 250 as shown in Figures 2A and 2D.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 8 of the application with the following:

As shown best in Figure 2D, device 300 also includes a collar 360. The collar 360 is disposed against the distal end of ramp 240 and houses the distal most portion of the bundle 310 and the lens 314. Collar 360 may be fabricated as an integral part of the backplate portion ~~232~~²³⁰. Mask portion 230, which includes the dome shaped backplate 232, ramp 240, collar 360, and cuff 234 may be formed, for example, by injection molding, as a single monolithic part.

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Amendments to the Drawings:

As requested by the Examiner, Figure 1C has been amended to include the legend "PRIOR ART". A replacement sheet (2/5), which shows Figure 1C, is enclosed herewith.